The Chicago Tribune.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1872.

The Chicago Relief bill did not get before the Senate yesterday, owing to the refusal of Senator Cole to yield the floor for the purpose. It is expected that the bill will come up and be acted upon to-day.

An annual product of $13,500,000 worth of woollen goods was represented before the Ways and Means Committee yesterday, asking for a reduction of the rate of duty upon their line of fabrics to 30 per cent *ad valorem*, and the utter abolition of the tariff on their raw material.

The International is are in Europe this week. At Leeds, 21,000 operatives are on a strike for nine hours' labor, and in France the order was eloquently defended yesterday in the Corps Legislatif, a member contending that their dogma of solidarity before patriotism was as commendable as the same feature in most religious beliefs.

The Common Council of Chicago held its regular weekly meeting last evening. The railroad ordinances were up, that concerning the more southerly right of way being referred back to the Railroad Committee, and the other (C., C. & I. C. and C., D. & V.) sent to the Committee on Streets and Alleys. The ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Comptroller to borrow $124,000 for city purposes was passed. Neither the Lake Front nor the Quincy street subject came up for action.

The Tichborne *cause célèbre* has reached another crisis. The jury yesterday requested the Judge to stop the trial, as they had already heard enough to decide their verdict against the plaintiff, of course. It will be recollected that they proposed this some time before the testimony for the plaintiff was all in, but were not indulged by the Court in their odd device for gaining their liberty. It has now been upward of ten months since the trial commenced,—the greater part of the time having been industriously occupied. The action of the Court upon the proposition of the jury has not been announced.

There was no quorum in either house of the Illinois Legislature yesterday. Some time was spent in the House over a proposition to adjourn on the 21st instant, and the feeling in favor of an early dissolution of the session seems to be increasing among the members, as absenteeism becomes more and more flagrant. It is to be hoped, however, that the Legislature will manage to stick together until all important measures like the Burnt Records bill, the Mayor's bill, the State Revenue bill (a reasonable compromise between those of the two respective houses), have been enacted into laws.

Mr. Henry Berry Lowry is a valuable man to the community of North Carolina. Indeed, they set so highly by him that they have offered rewards aggregating $45,000 for even so much as his head. Lowry is noted as the leader of the Lowry Gang, which has been the terror of a large district three nine years. It is mentioned that none of these Lowries can read or write; but as they spend their days in swamps, and earn their livelihood by shooting and stealing, they do not seem to stand in any great need of such literary acquirements. They do, however, stand in need of some stout hemp.

The Japanese Ambassadors paid their respects to President Grant yesterday. The chief Prince of the party, Setsul Tomomi Iwakura, delivered a brief address, full of excellent feeling, in which he explained the object of the visit to America and other civilized countries. It was in pursuance, he said, of the regular policy of the Mikado—a policy which dated from the recent reconstruction of the Government of Japan. "We hope," said Iwakura, "to gain from this visit a fresh impulse in the paths of progress, drawing good from every form of civilization." The President, in reply, felicitated his Administration upon being distinguished in history as the first to receive an Embassy like the present, etc. He then reminded his Oriental visitors of some of the peculiar merits of this country, which he hoped would appear to them worthy of imitation; and, seizing the head Ambassador by the arm, conveyed him, the retinue following, into the blue parlor, where some of the female society, from White House circles, served, we may believe, to enamor the Ambassadors more completely with the institutions of America than anything they have seen since Chicago. We do not hear that the "Japs" were taken to the room of the Senatorial Investigating Committee, to hear from Private Secretary Porter how to run messes and Custom Houses on high moral principles.

The Retrenchment Committee of the Senate commenced, yesterday, the Washington session of its so-called investigation of the New York Custom House abuses. The object of this session is to allow the members of the "military ring" an opportunity to explain away the damaging features of the testimony elicited at New York. General Horace Porter, Private Secretary of the President, and head of the mess to which Leet contributed from the proceeds of his General Order business, was on the stand five hours, and devoted himself energetically to putting a good face upon his transactions and those of General Grant, in re Leet, considering the many announcements which were made beforehand, that Porter would eternally annul all the adverse testimony which had appeared upon this subject, the result of his day's work cannot be pronounced very satisfactory. He told the Committee how the President had said to him that he never would appoint anybody that he thought anything of to a Custom House office, and how he (Grant) urged Leet to take a private speculation offered him by Don Cameron. But it seems that the President yielded so far as to offer Leet the New Orleans Custom House (poor New Orleans, it must have either a Leet or a Casey), and, when that was declined on account of the inadequacy of the salary (Casey makes only about $25,000 a year in dull times), gave him a letter to Collector Grinnell which caused that officer to receive him "very politely," and straightway make a soft place for him in the General Order store. It would appear, however, that the President remonstrated with his *protégé* against the folly of taking office and making more scandal than money. "Get thee to a nunnery," was the purport of the advice of Leet's Chief; "take an office in Don Cameron's corporation, and let me give these Custom House berths to the politicians who are pressing me so hard." Leet was incorrigible, however, and was finally rewarded with letters of marque and reprisal upon the New York merchants. But this state of things was all corrected when the noble Murphy came in, and Porter wrote him, with lofty and self-denying patriotism, not to appoint any of the miscellaneous bummers who came around and pretended to be friends of his (Porter) or of the President; but, on the contrary, to "so distribute the *patronage* of your office as to render the most efficient service to the cause of the Administration." Murphy has once been himself sacrificed to the "cause of the Administration," but Leet & Blocking still flourish, and all merchants and others who offer to point out any abuses in the Custom House are promptly prosecuted for bribery or something. Porter has never been bribed. Grinnell sent him five gallons of sherry once, and there may have been some other small matters like that; but Porter would like to see the man who had the effrontery to offer him money. The Committee was given to understand, that the act would be fatal to any person making such a proposition.

War Department Weather Prognostics.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—A rising barometer, a gradual fall in temperature, northwesterly to southwesterly winds, and clear weather will prevail during to-night from the Upper Lake region southward and eastward to the Atlantic. The winds along the Middle and East Atlantic coasts increasing to very brisk, and probably high northwesterly. The pressure will quickly fall to-night and rise in the Far West throughout the Mississippi Valley and Lower Lakes, with southerly to easterly winds and probably increased cloudiness.

The Chicago Tribune.

VOLUME 25. CHICAGO, TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1872.—SIX PAGES. NUMBER 210.

WASHINGTON.

Reopening of the New York Custom House Investigation.

Testimony of Colonel Porter, the President's Private Secretary.

Formal Reception of the Japanese Embassy at the White House.

Official Copy of the Imperial Letter of Credence Presented to the President.

The Atchison-Topeka-Santa Fe Land-Grant Swindle Engineered Through the Senate.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The following is the official copy of a translation of the letter of credence from the Emperor of Japan, presented by the Japanese Embassy to the President of the United States, to-day:

[Official Translation.]

Mycikonchito, Emperor of Japan, &c., to the President of the States of America:

Our good, brother and faithful friend, greeting: Mr. President: Whereas, since our accession, by the blessing of Heaven, we have ascended the throne on which our ancestors reigned from time immemorial, we have not despatched any Embassy to the Courts and Governments of friendly countries, we have thought fit to select our trusty and honored Minister, Sioyu Tomomi Iwakura, the Junior Prime Minister, as Ambassador Extraordinary, and have associated with him Jussemmi Takayoss Kido, member of the Privy Council; Jussemmi Yoshitaki Okubo, Minister of Finance; Jushie Hirobumie Ito, Acting Minister of Public Works, and Jushie Masanobu Yamaguzi, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, as Ambassadors Extraordinary, and invested them with full powers to represent us, and to deliver Our autograph letter, and to present Our congratulations and tender Our sincere wishes for the welfare of your Majesty, and for the prosperity of your people, and to enter into such negotiations touching the commercial relations already existing between our respective countries as may be found desirable. Thus we hope to gain fresh impetus in the paths of civilization. This we consider will be a source of pleasure to our own national interests, so sincere shall earnestly hope, a generous sovereign, and cooperation in facilitating the task entrusted to our Ambassadors. We gladly avail ourselves of the happy occasion to offer you sincerely to your Excellency our sincere wishes for your continued prosperity and happiness, and as national representatives, we express the same wish to all the people of the United States." The President then responded:

"GENTLEMEN: I am pleased that this country, and that my administration, will be distinguished in the history of the first which has received an Embassy from a nation which, while the United States were first to establish diplomatic and commercial intercourse. The objects which you say have given rise to the mission are worthy of the intelligence and wisdom of your sovereign. You may justly claim credit on your return for having been chosen as the agents for carrying them into effect. The time must be regarded as auspicious for the future, when any nation can keep apart from all other countries, and yet advance prosperity and happiness, which depend more on the peaceful adoption of improvements, not only in the science of government, but in those other resources and arts which constitute to the solid strength of a nation and to national wealth and power. Though Japan is one of the most ancient of organized communities, and the United States is among the most recent, we flatter ourselves that we have made some improvements on the political institutions of nations from whom we are descended. Our experience leads us to believe that the wealth, power and happiness of a people are advanced by their encouragement of trade and commercial intercourse with other powers; by the elevation and dignity of labor; by the practical adaptation of science to manufactures and the arts; by increased facilities of frequent and rapid communication between distant parts of the country; by encouragement of education, which brings with it the varied habits and diverse genius of industry; by freedom of trade; by a free press; by freedom of thought and consequent liberal toleration in matters of religion, but only so far as religion is a guide to correct conduct among us. It will be a pleasure to us to cultivate that communication on international questions in which you say you are authorized to engage. The improvement of commercial relations between the respective countries is important and desirable, and will be strengthened by the bonds which unite us. I will heartily co-operate in so desirable an object.

"Your kind wishes, I believe, personally, gentlemen, are cordially reciprocated. I trust that your stay here will be agreeable to you, and may contribute to a better acquaintance and intercourse between our respective peoples. The deepest interest was manifested by the large company present in the proceedings and conclusion of the ceremonies a formal introduction was given to the officials present, those representing the several departments of the Government, and groups to the strangers. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the members of the Embassy were escorted into the private rooms of the President to the ladies of the Executive Mansion and Cabinet officers families, together with others who had been invited to be present. President Grant, with Iwakura on his left as to either of the Ambassadors, then gave our cordial friendship, and to place our future relations between our respective nations on a firmer and broader basis. The period for revising the treaties now existing between ourselves and the United States is approaching, and I expect, and intend, to reform and improve the existing treaties upon a similar footing with the most enlightened nations, so as to further the full development of public right and interest. The laws and judicial institutions of Japan are so different from those of other countries that we cannot expect to reach the desired end at once. We can only gain perfection from the various institutions prevailing among the most enlightened nations such as are best suited to our present condition, and adopt them in gradual reforms and improvements in our public laws and customs, so as to be upon an equality with them. While objects we desire to fully disclose to the United States Government the condition of affairs in our Empire, and to consult upon the means which will give greater efficiency to our institutions at present and in the future, and as soon as the said Embassy returns home, we will consult upon a revision of the treaties, and accomplish what we have expected and intended. The Ministers who compose this Embassy have our full confidence and esteem. We request you to favor them with full credence and due regard, and we earnestly pray for your continued health and happiness, and for the peace and prosperity of your great Republic. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hand and the great seal of our Empire, at our palace in the city of Tokio, this fourth of the eleventh month of the fourth year of Meiji.

"Your affectionate brother and friend,

(Signed) MOUTSOUKITO.

(Countersigned), Juichu Sanetomi Sasio, Prime Minister."

WOOL.

The Committee of Ways and Means will give another hearing to the delegation on the wool question.

THE CHICAGO RELIEF BILL TO-MORROW.

Senator Wright made an unsuccessful effort to-day to get up the Chicago Relief bill, but Mr. Cole stubbornly refused to give way with his appropriation bill. The motion was not persisted in very strongly, as there was a very slim attendance of Senators. It will be called up again to-morrow and pressed to a vote. There seems no longer to be a doubt from any quarter as to its passage.

SENATE TARIFF BILL.

Senator Sherman intends to call up the Tariff bill, lately reported by the Finance Committee, some time this week. He thinks this bill represents the average amount of reduction that the Senate is willing to sustain in this direction. This Committee will so amend the free Tea and Coffee bills as simply provide for the reduction of duties thereon to the figures fixed upon in the late report to the Senate.

CINCINNATI PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The following is the title of the bill which has finally passed for the purchase of a site for public buildings at Cincinnati:

Be it enacted, &c., that the Secretary of the Treasury be and is hereby authorized and directed to purchase a central and suitable site in the city of Cincinnati for the erection of a building for the accommodation of the Circuit and District Courts, Custom House, United States Depository, Post-Office, Internal Revenue and Pension Offices, in a sum not to exceed, in the whole, $250,000; no money which may hereafter be appropriated for this purpose shall be used or expended in the purchase of said site until the title thereto shall be vested in the United States, and until the State of Ohio shall cede its jurisdiction over the same, and shall duly release and relinquish to the United States the right to tax, or in any way to assess said site or property of the United States that may be thereon, during the time that the United States shall be or remain owner thereof.

KENTUCKY WAR CLAIM.

The argument upon the Kentucky war claim will be heard by the Supreme Court on Friday next, when a rule having been granted upon the Secretary of the Treasury, he will appear through the Attorney General and Solicitor General, and show cause why he should not be compelled to sign Treasury warrants for the payment of the Kentucky claims. In connection with this subject, the report is current here that the State authorities at Frankfort are unable to ascertain the exact whereabouts of the $80,000 recently paid by the United States Government on account of the war claims of that State.

LAND-GRANT SWINDLE.

The Senate passed the extension of time of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe land-grant swindle to-day. Pomeroy engineered, and Twitchell, member of the House and President of the road, was on hand, as when it was under consideration before, to help the lobby, though in the House it is understood that Twichell will rally to the support of the pending Bayfield & Lake Superior scheme with the hope on the part of the friends of each to help their own cause along.

THE WISCONSIN GRAB SCHEME.

The House Committee on Public Lands had the Bayfield bill, with the House modifications, under consideration to-day, when the friends of the bill unexpectedly ascertained that a mistake had been evidently made in preparing the instructions, since they virtually killed the bill. The first instruction provided that the road should only receive such lands as "could otherwise go to the Northern Pacific, and secondly, that it should not receive them in lieu of other available candidates." These would get other lands. This, coupled with the first, would leave scarcely nothing for the Bayfield scheme, and so the Committee adjourned to take the situation into consideration.

THE LAW OF ENLISTMENT.

The Supreme Court to-day decided that no State Court had authority to interfere and discharge a person enlisted into the United States military service on the ground that he had enlisted when a minor and without proper permission; that such cases belonged exclusively to United States Courts.

THE HOUSE ARMS SALE INVESTIGATION.

A member of the House Committee to Investigate the Sale of Arms makes the statement that the latter is in a very disagreeably surprised state of mind. He and his colleagues were astonished when it found that the House had passed a resolution dissenting on an ipsidixy such indecent haste, and is inclined to suspect that Mr. Lynch (who moved the resolution) was in some way interested in the sale, which explained the Senate, as amended, is "in the interest," but made a wonderful change in the original of Mr. Sumner's mistake, and offered a substitute for the whole, instead, which did not mention it.

[By Associated Press.]

THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The members of the Japanese Embassy were presented to the President to-day. The following is the address of the chief Ambassador, delivered by Iwakura:

His Majesty, Emperor of Japan, our august sovereign, has sought, since the achievement of several great reconstruction, to attain a more perfect organization in the administrative power of the Government. He has studied with interest the results attained by Western nations, having sincere desire to establish permanent and friendly relations with foreign powers on a still closer footing. He has commissioned us, his Ambassadors Extraordinary, to all powers having treaties with Japan. Upon the soil of your country we first present our credentials, delivering to you personally the letter of which we are the bearers from our august Sovereign. At this public official audience. The object of the mission with which we charged by our Government are somewhat set forth in its letter. We are authorized to confer with your Government on all international questions, and to make efforts to promote and develop wide commercial relations already existing between our respective countries. Thus we hope to gain fresh impetus in the paths of civilization. This we consider will be a source of pleasure to our own national interests, so sincere shall earnestly hope, a generous sovereign, and cooperation in facilitating the task entrusted to our Ambassadors. We gladly avail ourselves of the happy occasion to offer you sincerely to your Excellency our sincere wishes for your continued prosperity and happiness, and as national representatives we express the same wish to all the people of the United States."

The President then responded:

"GENTLEMEN: I am pleased that this country, and that my administration, will be distinguished in the history of the first which has received an Embassy from a nation which, while the United States were first to establish diplomatic and commercial intercourse. The objects which you say have given rise to the mission are worthy of the intelligence and wisdom of your sovereign. You may justly claim credit on your return for having been chosen as the agents for carrying them into effect. The time must be regarded as auspicious for the future, when any nation can keep apart from all other countries, and yet advance prosperity and happiness, which depend more on the peaceful adoption of improvements, not only in the science of government, but in those other resources and arts which constitute to the solid strength of a nation and to national wealth and power. Though Japan is one of the most ancient of organized communities, and the United States is among the most recent, we flatter ourselves that we have made some improvements on the political institutions of nations from whom we are descended. Our experience leads us to believe that the wealth, power and happiness of a people are advanced by their encouragement of trade and commercial intercourse with other powers; by the elevation and dignity of labor; by the practical adaptation of science to manufactures and the arts; by increased facilities of frequent and rapid communication between distant parts of the country; by encouragement of education, which brings with it the varied habits and diverse genius of industry; by freedom of trade; by a free press; by freedom of thought and consequent liberal toleration in matters of religion, but only so far as religion is a guide to correct conduct among us. It will be a pleasure to us to cultivate that communication on international questions in which you say you are authorized to engage. The improvement of commercial relations between the respective countries is important and desirable, and will be strengthened by the bonds which unite us. I will heartily co-operate in so desirable an object.

"Your kind wishes, I believe, personally, gentlemen, are cordially reciprocated. I trust that your stay here will be agreeable to you, and may contribute to a better acquaintance and intercourse between our respective peoples. The deepest interest was manifested by the large company present in the proceedings and conclusion of the ceremonies a formal introduction was given to the officials present, those representing the several departments of the Government, groups to the strangers. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the members of the Embassy were escorted into the private rooms of the President to the ladies of the Executive Mansion and Cabinet officers families, together with others who had been invited to be present. President Grant, with Iwakura on his left as to either of the Ambassadors, then gave our cordial friendship, and to place our future relations between our respective nations on a firmer and broader basis. The period for revising the treaties now existing between ourselves and the United States is approaching, and I expect, and intend, to reform and improve the existing treaties upon a similar footing with the most enlightened nations, so as to further the full development of public right and interest. The laws and judicial institutions of Japan are so different from those of other countries that we cannot expect to reach the desired end at once. We can only gain perfection from the various institutions prevailing among the most enlightened nations such as are best suited to our present condition, and adopt them in gradual reforms and improvements in our public laws and customs, so as to be upon an equality with them. While objects we desire to fully disclose to the United States Government the condition of affairs in our Empire, and to consult upon the means which will give greater efficiency to our institutions at present and in the future, and as soon as the said Embassy returns home, we will consult upon a revision of the treaties, and accomplish what we have expected and intended. The Ministers who compose this Embassy have our full confidence and esteem. We request you to favor them with full credence and due regard, and we earnestly pray for your continued health and happiness, and for the peace and prosperity of your great Republic. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hand and the great seal of our Empire, at our palace in the city of Tokio, this fourth of the eleventh month of the fourth year of Meiji.

"Your affectionate brother and friend,

(Signed) MOUTSOUKITO.

(Countersigned), Juichu Sanetomi Sasio, Prime Minister.

THE COUNCIL.

The "First Regiment, Illinois Volunteers," Put In a Petition for Compensation.

Ordinance for the Vacation of Quincy Street Submitted by the Board of Public Works.

Petitions, Communications, Remonstrances, and Ordinances Concerning Rail-Roads.

Permission Granted the Comptroller to Borrow $120,000 Until the Next Appropriation.

No More Sidewalk Money.

A regular meeting of the Common Council was held last evening, President HEATH in the Chair. There were also present, the following Aldermen: Ald. Otis, McGenniss, Thompson, Verdier, Daggy, Stone, Tracy, Hickey, Cullerton, Bailey, Clowry, Bunker, Powell, Holden, Sherf, Whitbeck, Ehrin, Gardner, Sherwood, Gill, Buehler, McGrath, Schmidt, Stout, Schaffner, Lengacher, McCaffrey, Carney, Clarke, Ogden, Busse, and Woodman.

PAYING FOR VOLUNTEER MILITARY SERVICE.

The following communication was received from His Honor the Mayor:

CHICAGO, March 4, 1872.

To the Honorable the Common Council:

GENTLEMEN—It appears to me to be proper that I should call your attention to the subject of the petition of the officers of the organization known as the "First Regiment Illinois Volunteers," claiming compensation from the city for the pay of said organization, for services rendered in the preservation of the peace and protection of property subsequent to the 7th day of October, 1871, and prior to the 9th day of October, 1871, and I therefore transmit the muster rolls of said organization, and recommend that your body have these documents examined by the proper officers, and that the appropriate Committee be instructed to ascertain and report the legality of the said claims against the city.

Respectfully submitted, MONROE HEATH, Mayor.

Following is the memorial:

GENTLEMEN—The undersigned, field, staff and company officers of the First Regiment (National Guards) Illinois Volunteers, respectfully represent: That on the 11th day of October, 1871, five companies of said regiment, viz: Company A, Capt. Frederick D. Company, Capt. Paul Falch; C Company, Capt. Henry Vyvial; D Company, Capt. Edward Hoffman; E Company, Capt. Frederick D. Company, Captain Frederick Lengacher; and H Company, Capt. Daniel Ryan, were ordered by the Governor of this State, at the request of Lieutenant General Sheridan, commanding the Military Division of the Missouri, to proceed to the city of Chicago, in an organization known as the First Regiment of Chicago Volunteers, under the command of Colonel Charles Ebersold, for the purpose of rendering such service for the preservation of the peace and protection of the property of the citizens of Chicago as might be necessary in the event of further fires, and remained actually were in service during the period of twenty days, and continued on duty for the purposes above named, and were mustered out of the service of the State of Illinois by the Governor of this State, on the 30th day of October, 1871, and did during their term of service co-operate with the police force in maintaining order, and that most of the officers and men of the five companies, as above named, were citizens of the city of Chicago, and that the officers of the five companies, as above named, were the selectmen among the suffrage for the great fire and conflagration of October, 1871, and that the recommendations for their families during the term of service aforesaid, and the manifest duty, and the manner in which they performed the same, and the efficiency, are submitted herewith. Your petitioners further represent that the pay of the several officers, non-commissioned officers and privates named in the muster rolls, to be paid as special compensation for the number of days they actually served.

The memorials are signed by Lieutenant Colonel Paul Falch, Major D. A. Brodie, Captain Frederick D. Company, Captain Paul Falch, Captain Frederick D. Company, Captain Paul Falch, Captain Frederick Lengacher, Captain Daniel Ryan, Captain Henry Vyvial, Captain Edward Hoffman, Adjutant Charles Ebersold, Quartermaster Julius Bunge, Surgeon Dr. A. Brodie, Assistant Surgeon Dr. Paul Falch, Sergeant Major John Rubel, Jacob Frech, Quartermaster Sergeant Julius Bunge, Sergeant Major Paul Falch, Sergeant Major Edward Hoffman, Sergeant Major Frederick Lengacher, Sergeant Major Daniel Ryan, Sergeant Major Henry Vyvial, Sergeant Major Frederick D. Company, Sergeant Major Frederick D. Company, Sergeant Major Frederick D. Company

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY.

MONDAY EVENING, March 4.

In the local money market business is quieter than during the closing days of last week, the activity consequent upon the monthly settlement of grain contracts, having disappeared. There is, however, a gradual tendency to a closer money market here as well as in the Eastern cities, and there seems ground for believing that under the activity of business which will steadily increase from this time until the spring tide of trade is at its highest, the tendency of the money market will be toward stringency. For the present, however, the supply of funds is fair, and the banks are taking about all the first-class short-time paper offered. The present stringency in New York is probably the result, to some extent, of the looking up of money by the bears in the stock market, but, by the first of April, legitimate causes will make money as tight there as it is now.

Exchange in this market is somewhat firmer than on Saturday, and though some small sales were made at a discount between banks, some of the usual sellers refused to sell at that.

THE "CREDIT FONCIER."

On Wednesday the "Credit Foncier bill," as it has been popularly dubbed, comes up in the Senate of this State, the bill having already passed the House. Divested of any technical terms, and of the foreign name which has become attached to it, this is nothing but a bill to authorize the formation of companies to borrow money on real estate security. It will, of course, be said that every individual has this privilege without the passage of a new act. But the object in securing such a charter is that the credit of the company may lend bonds to the amount of one-third its total capital and assets, and offer these bonds for sale in foreign or foreign money-lender, instead of the borrower offering a particular mortgage or trust deed on a particular piece of real estate to one particular lender. The bonds would be based upon the company's capital, and also upon the mortgages or trust deeds of real estate made to the company by. These bonds would therefore be to the lender a security representing all the real estate mortgaged to the company and the additional security of the company's subscribed capital. It is plain that the concentration of these deeds would probably be the cause of a reduction in the total capital and assets, and offer these bonds for sale in foreign or foreign money-lender, instead of

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TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1872.

THE INSURANCE QUESTION.

The bill introduced in the General Assembly by Senator Dore, allowing foreign (European) insurance companies to do business in the State of Illinois, provided they have made a deposit in any other State to protect their policy-holders in all the States, has already passed the Senate, and we see no reason why the House Committee should not immediately report it back for passage, instead of detaining it in their hands, where it has already been too long. It has now lain there over a month, when it could just as well have been reported back and passed in two or three days, and thus have afforded the public some secure basis of indemnity in case of fire. Of the wisdom and justice of this bill, we believe there is no question, and as the Chairman of the Insurance Committee is a Chicago man, we confess that we cannot understand this delay, or what objection the Committee has to reporting a bill which is not only of benefit to Chicago, but to every part of the State. If a foreign insurance company can produce a certificate that they have made a deposit in another State sufficient to protect their American policy-holders, that is enough. It is manifestly unjust to compel them to make a deposit in every State where they wish to do business, as that would absorb all their capital, and, in order that they might do business at all, they would be compelled to raise their rates to an exorbitant figure, or withdraw altogether from the field, and compel insurers to place their risks exclusively in home companies,—an experiment which Chicago has tried once to her sorrow. The old law requires foreign companies to make a deposit of $200,000 with the State Auditor for the protection of Illinois policy-holders, and one result of this unfair discrimination is the present increase of rates. Withdraw the necessity of this deposit, and the necessity of this increased rate is to a certain extent withdrawn. Chicago feels under special obligation to the foreign companies, for, after her great fire, when home companies were collapsing one after the other, or only paying 20 or 25 per cent of the amount of their policies, these companies met their engagements and paid 100 cents on the dollar. But the solvency of an insurance company is important not only to Chicago, but to every section of the State. Some other States are discussing favorably the same provision relative to deposits, and there should be uniformity of action in this regard, that foreign companies may be enabled to do business here without unnecessary obstacles being placed in their way. The Chicago fire was a crucial test of the condition of insurance companies, and developed facts about their resources, solvency, and general *modus operandi* which could not have been obtained in any other manner. What these facts were, in reference to home companies, the general public knows well, and the property-holders of Chicago only too well. While it exposed the rottenness of so many of these companies, it exhibited the solvency of the foreign companies, and their ability to pay their losses to the uttermost farthing, without impairing their resources or ability to continue in business. Naturally enough, however, for self-protection, these companies have been obliged to defend themselves by greater precautions in taking risks and by an increase of rates. It is, therefore, for the interest of policy-holders to have these rates reduced by allowing the foreign companies to do business here as nearly as possible on the same level with home companies, and to encourage them in every way. They have proved their ability to meet losses by a test more severe than may ever be applied again, and they deserve, consequently, the simple act of justice which Mr. Dore's bill contemplates. We hope, therefore, that the House Committee will delay no longer in reporting back the bill. There is no excuse for its detention.

The great fire has demonstrated a principle that is being acted upon all over the country, viz.: that it is best to go away from home to get insurance. Hartford merchants are now going to New York to get their stores and goods insured, instead of patronizing home companies. New York merchants are going generally to Hartford, Boston, Providence and Philadelphia, etc., etc. And it has been proved that, while local insurance answers for small fires, it is worthless for great conflagrations, because the same fire which burns up the merchants' goods consumes the insurance companies' assets. It is wise for us, it is wise for Illinois, it is wise for the United States, to apply this newly-discovered principle in insurance to foreign companies, and get as many risks taken by the London, Liverpool & Globe, the Imperial, the North British & Mercantile, and other solvent foreign companies, as they are willing to take.

THE STATE PENITENTIARY.

In common with the general public, we have been led to suppose, from recent representations, that, under the present management of the Illinois State Penitentiary, everything was at last moving along smoothly and satisfactorily in that institution, and that the future was full of promise. But our advices from Joliet are neither confirmatory nor even encouraging. It appears that Warden Washburne is having as hard and unconfortable a time of it as had his predecessors, Dornblazer and Perkins; that the resident Commissioner, who got up a row-dy quarrel with his associates on the former Board, and with every Warden and Deputy Warden the institution has had since he has been a Commissioner, has now tackled the new Warden, and is seeking to get him out of the way; and that, instead of making the prison a paying institution, as it ought to and might be made, the new quarrel now in progress bids fair to result as disastrously to its interests as the former quarrels. Our knowledge of Mr. Washburne, the Warden, who has been faithfully and successfully at work for nearly two years past straightening out and regulating the financial and disciplinary chaos of the prison, disposes us to the opinion that he is not to blame for the new complications. He is not a quarrelsome man, but, on the other hand, is proverbial for his disposition to attend to his own business, and to let other people's business alone. It is safe to infer, therefore, that the resident Commissioner is at the bottom of the "misunderstanding" that has now, if we are correctly informed, arisen between the Commissioners and Mr. Washburne, and which threatens to put off indefinitely the day when our Penitentiary shall cease to be a burden and a nuisance to the State.

It has been clear for some time that the present system for the management of the Penitentiary needs material modification. "Too many cooks spoil the broth,"—and that is what's the matter in the Joliet concern. There are too many head "cooks" there. The three Commissioners, whose chief business is to draw their salaries and speculate in contracts, are just three Commissioners too many. They could be dispensed with to the advantage of the institution and with economy to the State. The Warden, if he be the right man for the place,—and none other should occupy the position,—should be abundantly able, under the supervision of the Governor and the financial officers of the State, and with the assistance of a Deputy and necessary guards and keepers, to "run" the institution. At all events, we cannot see why a good Warden could not do so more successfully without than with the "backing" of a Board of scheming Commissioners, who can neither agree among themselves nor co-operate harmoniously with him.

It has now been demonstrated, after a trial of 9 re years, that the new system of "State control" needs radical reconstruction. The solution of this troublesome problem now presented to our Legislature will probably be found in the abolition of the Board of Commissioners, who are, at best, merely ornamental appendages of the prison. Mr. Nelson's bill, now pending in the House, and which was prepared in accordance with the views of the Special Committee which has been investigating the affairs of the Penitentiary, strikes us as the needful thing for the peculiar emergency. This bill proposes to abolish the Commissioners, and place the Penitentiary in the charge of a Warden, to be appointed by, and responsible to, the Governor, and who is to be required to give heavy bonds for the faithful discharge of his trust. If the General Assembly have an earnest wish to remedy the present defects in our State Prison system, and to remove the embarrassments which threaten to perpetuate its *failure*, it will pass this bill. Of course, the Commissioners and their friends will struggle for their continuance in office; but, before their influence should have the weight of a feather in the minds of our legislators, they should be made to show that their services are indispensable, or even justifiable. This, we imagine, will be a difficult task.

SOMETHING ABOUT CALICO.

Mr. C. B. Farnsworth, a manufacturer of cotton prints, at Providence, Rhode Island, has presented to Congress a memorandum of certain facts pertaining to that business. It seems that the duty on ordinary gray cotton cloths is equal to a prohibition; no goods of that character are imported. There is, therefore, no revenue whatever collected from that source. Ordinary print cloths are made 64 threads to the inch, counting each way, 28 inches wide, and weighing about one pound to each seven yards of cloth. The average market value of such goods in Manchester, England, is 5 cents per yard, gold, or 5 1-2 cents in currency. The duty on such cloths at that value, if imported, would be 3.89-100 cents per running yard in gold. They cost when imported:

	Cents.
Price in Manchester	5.
Freight, insurance, etc., 8 per cent	.49
Duties	3.89
Add 10 per cent premium on gold	.50
Currency price per yard	10.32

It will be seen that imported prints cost, without any profit to importers, over 10 cents per running yard. Yet printed goods are an indispensable necessity. They must be had. They constitute an essential part of the clothing of an immense part of the population. Except, perhaps, in one or two instances, the spinning of cloths for printing, and the printing of the same, are carried on by distinct interests, having different mills, different machinery, and each conducting a distinct and separate business. As no print cloths are imported, the manufacturers of that class of goods can get any price therefor, provided they do not exceed 10 cents, or such price as will admit the foreign goods to competition. By reducing the amount in market, they can advance the price to 10 cents; by making them in excess of the demand, they would run the price down. Mr. Farnsworth declares "that there is not spinning and weaving enough done in the country to supply the cotton goods" that are wanted at a reasonable price. The spinners, therefore, controlling the amount manufactured, are able to keep the price as near the maximum of the capacity of the people to purchase as possible. The tariff, as it stands at present, prohibits importation, cuts off revenue, and diminishes the consumption of printed goods by the high prices. The average price demanded by spinners for print cloths at Providence is 7 3-4 cents per yard. The average price of cotton in the same time has admitted the manufacture of cloth at 6 cents or less per yard. The profits, therefore, have been 30 per cent. Print cloths contain 45 yards to the piece; 250,000 pieces are made in this country per week, or 13,000,000 pieces per year. The aggregate profit on this amount, at 1 3-4 cents per yard, is $8,775,000,—*a profit extorted by law.*

The consumption of cotton for print cloths is about 200,000 bales a year, or one-fifth of the whole cotton consumed in this country. Two other fifths are consumed in the manufacture of other cotton goods, including shirtings and sheetings. It is probable that the prices of nearly all the cotton manufactures are materially increased by the same cause. But, estimating that the prices of only three-fifths of the cotton manufactures are increased by this cause, we have the extraordinary result of a profit of $36,325,000, or 30 per cent. The consumers of these goods must have them to a certain extent no matter what the price; and here, under the pretence of protecting the spinners and weavers, the Government has fixed by law 30 per cent as the minimum of profit to be paid by the consumers.

The suggestion that the Government must have revenue, and that it must to some extent be raised by a tariff, has no application in this case, because the goods are not imported. The only kinds of cotton cloths imported are of those classes not made in this country.

The American spinner has a protection of over 100 per cent on print cloths. The protection afforded by the duty alone is 65 per cent. The average protection on ordinary goods is 75 per cent. The American manufactures of cotton grew up under a protection ranging from 22 to 30 per cent. The business was then firmly established; the manufacture of cotton being in 1861 as great as it is now. Mr. Farnsworth states that, if the duty were now fixed at 25 per cent *ad valorem*, no foreign cloth could be imported and put down in the United States for less than 7 31-100, in currency, per yard.

The effect of this excessive taxation is not only felt by the final consumer of the cloth but fatally by the printers of calico. The business of the latter is at the mercy of the spinners. They cannot import, and must buy of the latter. The price that can be asked for printed goods is limited. When it exceeds a certain point, the consumption ceases. The business has been carried on since the war without profit. It is asserted that calico-printing can be done in this country, without any reduction in the wages of labor, and even with taxed drugs and dyes, as cheaply as it can be done in France or England. If the law would allow them to be thus manufactured, they could be exported, and sold in successful competition in all foreign markets. The American calico-printer is loaded down with burdens. He asks for no protection,—asks but to be left free, and he can meet the world in any market.

This is the statement of an American manufacturer protesting against the selfishness of another class of manufacturers, who are, by law, protected at the rate of 100 per cent. If the duty on print cloths were reduced to 30 per cent, the additional protection afforded by freights, etc., would leave the spinners a margin of 30 per cent. This would double the production especially of printed cloths, double the number of persons employed, and give the American calico-printers not only the monopoly of the home market, but enable them to send their cloths to all parts of the world.

The profits which the law requires the American people to pay to the manufacturers of cotton goods in the United States does not fall much below $35,000,000 a year, a sum which exceeds not only the tax on tea and coffee, but would pay that tax, and also the whole cost of all the tea imported into the United States in 1871.

The Committee on Commerce in the House of Representatives has included in the bill regulating steamboat transportation a limitation upon the liability of owners for damages in cases of collision or explosion. The Committee propose that the value of the boat shall be the measure of the liability; so that, in case a steamboat worth $25,000 explodes her boiler and kills or maims fifty persons, the owners of the boat shall only be liable in the sum of $500 to each person. This is offering a premium for worthless boats. A steamer worth $75,000, carrying 100 passengers, assumes a risk of $750 for each passenger; while a steamer worth $10,000, carrying the same number, takes a risk of only $100 for each passenger. This is an admirable way to force the withdrawal of the better class of boats from the service. The theory of grading the value of lives and limbs according to the value of the exploded boiler, will hardly meet the public views of justice.

CO-OPERATION AND TRADES-UNIONS.

Some of the English Government clerks have formed co-operative clubs for buying provisions and renting rooms, and have been enabled thereby to reduce their expenses from a third to a half. Thereupon, a number of small tradesmen have resolved to tax the injured Briton's great resources.—writing to the *Times*. They complain bitterly that their custom is falling off, and that they will be obliged to shut up their shops unless public opinion or something stronger compels the offending clerks to give up buying in the cheapest market. The real interest of the wordy warfare to us is the statistics of co-operation that it has called out. The latest full report quoted is that for the year 1867. At that time there were in England and Wales 577 co-operative store societies, which counted their members at 171,897, and their capital at over $7,000,000. Their annual business exceeded $30,000,000, and their shareholders pocketed each year $2,000,000 in profits. Of all these, the Pioneer Society of Rochdale is the richest. In 1844, 28 men, the poorest of the poor, organized a society, and opened a store. During that year it saved them some money, but paid no profit. In 1845 the members were 74 and the profits were £22. Every year since has witnessed a steady increase. In 1867 the 6,932 members cleared £41,619. The original store was, of course, a grocery. They added, in 1847, a dry goods store; in 1850, a slaughter-house and butcher-shop; in 1853, a shoe-store and tailor-shop; in 1855, a coal-yard; and, in 1867, a bakery. The best of raw materials, either produced at home or else imported, free of taxation, from abroad, are manufactured by the best of workmen. Their clothes wear twice as long and cost half as much as in 1844. Their coal, their meat, their groceries, are cheaper and better. All these different establishments are under the roof of one immense building, erected by the Rochdale Pioneers at a cost of $80,000. Above the stores is an immense assembly-room, where the members meet to hear the monthly and yearly reports, and to listen to lectures, concerts, etc. There is also a news-room, stocked with the best English and foreign papers and reviews, and a library containing, in 1867, 9,000 volumes, and rapidly increasing from the regular appropriation to it of 2 1-2 per cent of the net profits of the society. The Rochdale Pioneers have never incurred a debt, a loss, or a law-suit. They have checked crime, diffused knowledge, diminished pauperism, and set an example that thousands of their fellow-workmen have found it to their advantage to follow, not only in Great Britain, but in Germany and France. Reform crossed the Channel without difficulty, but the ocean seems to be an effectual barrier. Our workingmen have imitated the other example of co-operation which Great Britain offers us,—the terror and tyranny of trades-unionism.

It is easy to cite instances. Last July, a Mr. Tasker, a shoe-manufacturer of New York City, decided that he could not carry on business longer under the dictation of the Crispin Society. Anxious to compromise matters, he wrote to the officers of the organization that, if they would allow him to hire persons to do a certain class of work at lower prices than the Crispin rules commanded to be paid, he would give employment to hundreds of men and women, able and willing to earn their food. Not a word of reply was vouchsafed him. Five weeks ago Saturday, he told his workmen that he could employ them no longer under Crispin rules. He offered to retain them all, and not to attempt to interfere with their membership, provided that they would not attempt to interfere with his management. They all stopped work. New men were engaged and terrorism began. A patrol was kept before the shop, paid by laboring men, to warn other men from laboring. Four of the new workmen have been beaten or mobbed on the street every week. A hole in the roof had to be cut through the ferry by a squad of policemen. This is in New York; but we need not go outside of Chicago to find a kindred illustration. About three weeks ago, one of our great iron-manufacturers found that there was not demand enough for his wares to keep all his workmen busy. Instead of discharging the surplus force, he put them to work in anticipation of orders, so that he might have a stock of manufactured articles on hand when the demand revived. The effect of this, however, would have been to make him more independent of the trades-unions, because, with a stock on hand, he could bear a temporary suspension of his works. He was therefore notified that he must not use the labor he had paid for in the way he wished: no work must be undertaken, except in fulfilment of a contract. He disobarged fifty malcontents and imported twelve Canadian moulders, paying all their expenses to the city, only to have them entrapped by the Unions and paid full wages for idleness. Waiving the attempted dictation and the dishonorable bribery, what can be said of the thrift of this whole proceeding? Fifty men, whose wages averaged $2 a day, have been receiving that sum for remaining idle for twenty working days, and twelve others have drawn the same amount for fifteen days. The sum total paid to these men by this society has been, then, nearly $8,000. Every day adds over $180 to this amount. The number of men on strike is 62. When the Rochdale Pioneers numbered 74, their capital was less than $2,000. They worked, and we have seen the result. These men are idle, and the one possible result, if this is persisted in, is pauperism and crime. Add to this case the scores of similar ones, and we can form some idea of the wanton waste of labor that results from putting a premium on idleness and deciding a contest of principle by the relative length of purse. If the Moulders' Union considers it necessary that these men should not do the work required of them, why does it not start them in a co-operative shop, and so utilize their abilities, instead of paying them for not using them?

The New York *Sun* is so strongly addicted to inviting libel-suits, and to the utterance of circumstantial charges of a grave character against public men without sufficient grounds, that we hesitate to credit its late charge against Secretary Robeson. The charge is, that some forty-eight contractors, among whom were Secor & Co., Perrine, Secor & Co., and Zeno Secor, presented claims to the Navy Department, some time prior to 1867, for the excess of the cost of certain river and harbor monitors over the contract price. After various discussions in Congress, and references to Committees and Naval Boards, an act was passed appropriating $115,539.01 to the payment of Secor & Co., and of Perrine, Secor & Co.; which act provided that that sum was to be in full of all demands of either firm on account of said vessels. This was paid to them, and receipts in full taken. The *Sun* alleges that, after the Secor account had thus been closed, the Secretary, of his own motion, without any authority of Congress, reopened the account, and drew upon the Treasury, against the protest of Mr. Lenthall, the Chief of the Bureau of Construction, for $63,000, which the *Sun* more than intimates he has converted to his own use. The *Sun*'s charge is weakened by being made in scurrilous and lampooning terms, such as tend to create a doubt either of the good faith or the intelligence of the writer.

During the late war, the pressing need of raising money in every possible way produced a flood of lotteries, until the popular mind was dulled into acquiescence with their principle. The war ended, and the lotteries went on. The "gift-enterprise," for the benefit of some non-existent benevolent institution, or for the relief of some mythical children, vaguely designated as the "orphans of our gallant boys in blue," flourished, like a green bay-tree, from California to Maine. After a vast number of upright persons had been swindled, conscientious scruples seized them as to the moral influence of lotteries, and the reaction began that has nipped in the bud so many of these fraudulent undertakings during the last two or three years. This reaction has reached even the South, where the business has been for a long time as legitimate as any other. The Grand Jury lately in session at New Orleans made a report, two days ago, severely censuring the lottery system, and called for its suppression. The power of the different companies engaged in such schemes became straightway apparent. By arguments that can be easily conjectured, the different newspapers of the city were induced to publish a mutilated or garbled copy of the report, in which the references to the lotteries were either entirely omitted, or else trimmed down into a practical nullity. Only one journal printed the report in full. The *National Republican* got wind of the scheme in some way, rejected the false copy sent it, obtained access to the original, and published it word for word. The *Republican* is now engaged in flayin alive the editors of the other papers with a happy vigor that vividly recalls the late unpleasantness in the Legislature.

When Charles Dickens came to this country to urge the importance of international copyright, and, while he remained here, told us at public and private dinner-tables that we were literary thieves, and, when he returned to England, published his "American Notes" in order to show that we were fools as well, he made much money, but very little progress in his patentable aim. Senator Sherman has patterned after him. He wishes to obtain an international copyright, and has reported a bill therefor that disgusts *everybody*. The authors had brought forward a bill; the publishers had brought forward a bill; some ardent soul had brought forward a third bill, which tried to compromise the two. Affairs were at a dead-lock. Every one was dissatisfied already, and every one found full vent for his dissatisfaction when the Ohio Senator presented his panacea. This bill provides that any book, map, etc., published abroad, may be copyrighted in the United States by the author on the same terms as if he were an American citizen; but any one may publish it, provided that he pays the author 5 per cent on "the gross cost of publication." There is no restriction on importation. The publishers are wroth over this bill, because what they wish is protection from each other,—the same exclusive right to prints foreign as an American book. By this measure the business would be thrown entirely into the hands of the *great firms*, for the small houses would be deterred from republishing English works by the same fear of incurring the hostility of their more powerful rivals that oppresses them now. In fact, they would be worse off. Their editions are usually smaller, their returns less, and being obliged to pay this 5 per cent indemnity would seriously embarrass them. The authors are indignant because, in the first place, the compensation offered them is ridiculously small. It would be exceedingly difficult, probably impossible, to determine the "cost of publication;" but, if it could be fixed, the proposed rate of remuneration would give an author about six cents on each copy of a $5-book. Again; just indignation is felt at this attempt to dictate the terms that an author shall make with his publisher. When a man owns a thing, whether it be a bedstead or a book, he has a right to sell it to the highest bidder. The restrictions not only do not, but unconstitutional. The whole billiabeuld be ruled out of court forthwith, and a new one introduced, by which Englishmen and Americans would be put on precisely the same footing of ability to buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Breslau *Gazette* informs that journal that the protest of the Germans in Milwaukee against paying honors to Alexis has greatly exasperated the Imperial Family of Russia. He writes: "The Empress, who has always watched with maternal solicitude over the progress of her favorite son through the United States, was loud in her denunciations of the boorish conduct of her country-men in that city, and as it is now well understood here that the Grand Duke Alexis, during his sojourn in Berlin last summer, was engaged to be married to the daughter of one of the most distinguished sons of Germany, the Princess Elizabeth Louise Frederica, eldest daughter of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia. This engagement was brought about by the joint efforts of our Empress and of the Emperor William of Germany. The wedding will take place in the autumn, after the return of the Grand Duke to Europe." The same correspondent also states that the Czar is indignant, because it has afforded the opportunity to some of the Russian papers to attack his friendly policy toward Germany. If Milwaukee has succeeded in producing a coolness between herself and Russia, and between Russia and Germany, she ought to be satisfied and retire upon her laurels. We shall next have her prejudicing the Alabama claims, or interfering with the French complications, or the Chicago Relief bill, if this kind of thing is not stopped. Let her be content with her Chippewa Dells and lake cable, and not meddle with foreign nations any more.

One of the effects of the monopoly in the control of freights, now possessed by a few Railway Kings, is the strong feeling manifested among the dealers in petroleum oil throughout the country, by the recent rise in freight-tariffs on oil. This rise is styled, by the Boston *Advertiser*, the first open movement of the great combination which, under the style of the South Improvement Company, seeks to control the petroleum trade of the country. It is hinted that Mr. Vanderbilt is an active partner in this scheme, and that one of its designs is to concentrate the refining business at New York City. The rates per barrel of refined oil from Titusville to Boston are advanced from $1.80 to $2.09, and those from Titusville to New York from $1.65 to $2.84. This advance of more than 60 per cent has had a corresponding effect on prices. The cities to which it seems to be the intension of the South Improvement Company. What the generous work is of improving the South, which seems to have given its baptismal appellation to this organization for scalping the oil-dealers of New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, we do not yet perceive. The change of tariffs tends to break up the refining business in the points specified in Titusville, Oil Creek, and Allegheny River localities, and to take it to New York. About two thousand oil-producers assembled on March 1, at Oil City, to protest against the operations of the Company, and a meeting was held on the same day in Buffalo to consider the project of building a railroad direct to Titusville.

A bill has been introduced in the New York Legislature, at the instance of Judges of the Supreme Court, to amend the existing statute touching the subject of separation and limited divorce of husband and wives, by making "such conduct on the part of the husband toward the wife as shall, without just cause, deprive her of the society of her relatives or friends, or of attendance upon public worship, or render her life unhappy or uncomfortable," sufficient cause for limited divorce. Mothers-in-law and handsome male cousins of remote degree may well congratulate themselves upon the introduction of this bill, endorsed as it is by the Supreme Court. Under its operation, every man must be content to accept the daily discipline of the mother-in-law without murmuring, and submit to find his place occupied now and then by the handsome young cousin of remote degree, without depriving his wife of their company. In the matter of church-going also, we do not know of any better kind of religious compulsion than is included in this bill. As the wife is always a punctilious church-goer, without much regard to the character of the sermons, and, in the majority of cases, won't go alone, it follows, as a matter of course, that the unfortunate head of the house must go, too, else there is cause for a limited divorce. The rights which the gentler sex is searching for so vigorously seem to be coming, one at a time, of themselves.

PERSONAL.

Fisk's military charger, Blücher, was sold at $330, one-eighth the price originally paid for him.

—Charles Whitehead has resumed the position of city editor of the Kansas City *Times*, out of which he was shot some weeks since.

—Thirty-six Chinese, who have been working on railroads in the Southern States, reached Omaha on Friday, on their return to the Pacific coast—which section they prefer to any other.

—Noble L. Prentis, a local editor at Lawrence, has been mustered into the army of the Lord by Brother Hammond.

—The late Joseph Gillott, of Birmingham, England, had a family of rare violins,—representing the genius of Amati, Guarnerius, and Stradivarius, some of which cost 4,000 each.

—Mrs. Catherine Edwards was buried at Dubuque last Friday, robed in a habit made for that purpose 26 years ago, and interred in a lot purchased by her 25 years since.

—Mr. Godding, the celebrated London brewer, once journeyed all the way from London to Vienna for the sole purpose of hearing a certain stringed quartette played.

—A responsible gentleman in New Orleans, who is childless, has offered $1,000 for the privilege of adopting the basket waif found by the police recently, the money to be invested for the benefit of the same.

—A Justice of the Peace in McLean County, Ill., affirms that in the month of December, 1847, he united two persons in marriage, and in February, 1872, performed the same ceremony for their third child.

—Colonel Cleveland, founder of the town of that name near Peoria, once owned the land on which Milwaukee is built.

—William W. Hawthorn, of Millsborough, Pa., who died, at an advanced age, Feb. 18, was early in life deprived by rheumatism of the use of his right arm and both legs. The flesh on these limbs gradually shrivelled away, while his head and body continued to grow into all the proportions of a well-developed man. For purposes of locomotion he was placed in a box, in which, constantly lying on his back, he attended to all kinds of business for the last sixty years. He acquired a common English education, taught school for a number of years, and at the time of his death was serving his seventh term as a Justice of the Peace, having acted in that capacity for nearly thirty-five years. He used the pen with his left hand, writing with the paper on a small board placed on his breast. He married at 23, and was the father of twelve children.

—John Ulrich, of Louisville, and Jacob Eyring, of Buffalo, were the recipients of serenades, Feb. 23, on their ninth birthdays and the advent of their 37th years.

—Bishop George F. Pierce is 61 years of age. He has been a minister forty-one years, and eighteen a Bishop. His father, the venerable Lovick Pierce, is still alive and able to attend to his pulpit duties.

—Peter A. Dey, formerly Chief Engineer of the Union Pacific Railroad, was the organizer of the first surveying parties for that road in 1853, and remained in charge of the construction corps and preliminary surveys until the spring of 1866, when a change was urged and insisted upon by the managers of the company in the direction of the first twenty-three miles located by him, causing an increase in its length of nine miles and his resignation.

—The Springfield (Ill.) *Register* of March 1 says:

> By a gentleman direct from Pleasant Plains, we learn the sad warning to Rev. Peter Cartwright still survive. Upon yesterday his mind appeared to have given entirely away, and reason to have deserted her throne. His attending physician, Dr. J. R. Cloud, of Pleasant Plains, who has been administering in his attentions during Mr. Cartwright's illness, says he fears reason has forever fled. His voice, however, has returned, and he preaches and prays most fervently and earnestly. Although he may survive for a day or two, yet his death may occur at any moment.

—Mrs. Abby Sage Richardson read in Topeka, Kan., on Thursday evening, selections from the writings of English and American poets and authors. She was neatly attired in plain black, wore scarcely any ornaments, and her every motion and action seemed to impress her audience more and more in her favor.

—The San Francisco *Alta* says of cold-weather growlers in Oregon:

> Some persons are difficult to please, but the Oregonians have reason to thank their stars that Jack Frost is so tender toward them. Certainly, when San Francisans go shivering about like automaton icicles every time the thermometer gets into the thirties above zero, our Northern neighbors who can live and breathe in the almost-pure the severity of which in imagination alone is nearly enough to chill the blood, should be piously grateful for having the stamina to stand it.

—Among the late arrivals in New York is the Countess Van de Vyver, better known in the literary world under her *nom de plume* of the "Countess Paula." The lady is understood to contemplate writing a book on America, and, contrary to the usual practice, intends to remain some time in the country to collect her material. Mme. Van de Vyver is well-known in the political and literary circles of more than one European capital.

—A Texas paper of a late date, in the course of an article on General Albert Sidney Johnson, written by a supposed intimate friend, says that his high sense of honor was the cause of his death. Because his defeat at the battle of Donelson, he was bitterly denounced by officers jealous of his fame, and severe and untruthful articles published by a portion of the New Orleans press. This so mortified and exasperated him, that, in the battle of Shiloh, he threw aside his rank as a General and went foremost in the fight, where he received his mortal wound.

—The Louisville *Courier* tells the following joke on a Confederate Major who considered himself a good shot:

> In the course of one of the fiercest battles of the war, Major —— suddenly found himself within about fifteen paces of a Yankee sharp-shooter. They fired at each other three times, but each time the Yankee dodged and the Major missed. The Yankee then stepped behind a tree and commenced reloading his gun. The Major, seeing this, ran up to within a few paces of the tree, and, as the Yankee stepped out, fired his pistol at him. The Yankee fell, and the Major, thinking he had killed him, turned away, when the Yankee sprang up and fired at him, but missed him. The Major then ran back to his own men, and the Yankee ran back to his. The Major was not hurt, but the Yankee was killed.

—The Islands of Jersey and Guernsey have not lost a trip in four years, and Stonington have not lost a trip in four years, and have more than paid for themselves since they were built.

—A German business house in San Francisco is preparing to send a railroad train of California wine to the East.

—A Holz electric machine, one of the largest and, probably, most effective in the world, has been forwarded from New York to the University of Pennsylvania. The revolving plate is 34 inches in diameter, and the machine is capable of giving an 18-inch spark, which will pierce a plate of glass ¾ inches thick.

—Some temperance people in Hartford, Conn., are going to work practically by establishing and running a cheap but wholesome restaurant on strictly temperance principles.

—Thrifty ladies in Louisiana found consisting of an almost transparent yellow resin, surrounded by a thin opaque crust. When freshly broken the centre is soft and elastic, but on exposure to the air it soon becomes hard and brittle. Its composition resembles that of benzthelm asphaltic, and of the fossil resins from the East Indies.

—The New York elevated railroad, from Dey street, up Greenwich and Ninth avenue to Thirtieth street, seems to be solving the quick transit scheme. The road now runs daily twelve trains up and down from Thirtieth to Dey. It is a common thing to carry 500 passengers daily at ten cents each. The time from Dey to Thirtieth is fifteen minutes.

—Youthful scamps in Allegheny City, Pa., have been the cause of considerable annoyance to Superintendent McCandless, recently, from a habit they have acquired of stopping the key-holes in the fire-alarm boxes with mud, and also covering the plate upon which are the directions where the key may be obtained.

—The Directors of the Niagara Railway Suspension Bridge company are making extensive repairs on the structure the coming season. The iron covers at the top of the towers will be removed to permit an inspection of the wire cables. These covers have not been disturbed since they were placed in their present position, over twenty years ago.

—The Hudson River day boat Chauncey Vibbard is on the stocks at Dean's shipyard, New York City, and nearly completed, having been lengthened twenty feet. The steamer Thomas Powell will be taken in hand as soon as the Vibbard is completed, and lengthened thirty feet.

—The flight of time at Bangor, Me., is hindered by the doves that spend their nights perched upon the hands of the city clock, and by their weight stop the motion of the machinery within.

—The Calais (Me.) *Times* says the project recently inaugurated there for establishing a line of freight propellers between Boston, Portland and that city, meets with much favor, and the capital stock of $100,000 is being rapidly taken up.

—The work of making rafts on the Penobscot River, in Maine, consumes ten million wooden rafting wedges, which, until this year, have been a hand product. They are now made by machinery.

—Since it has become certain that the Mount Royal Park is to be created by the City of Montreal, several proprietors of land there have been using their best endeavors to clear off the trees as fast as possible and convert them into cordwood. On one property alone it is said that as many as 1,500 cords of wood were cut down during the past year.

—Boston pays its female teachers an average of $67.99 per month, and Newton $66.54. These are the highest averages in the State. The lowest is the town of New Ashford, which pays only $16.

—New York, with its leading importance and vast population, is, despite its otherwise reckless extravagance, economical enough to limit its Governor's salary to $4,000. Foremost of all stands California, with the handsome stipend of $7,000, which imposing figures must make other Gubernatorial mouths water with envy, and convince the most skeptical that there is such a thing as remunerative appreciation in public life.

—The construction of the grand exhibition building on St. Charles street, between Girod and Julia, New Orleans, is progressing so rapidly that it will be ready for the reception of goods on the 15th of April next. The exhibition will open the 1st of May.

—The new County of Ventura, Cal., set off from Santa Barbara County, will contain 2,000 square miles, 2,500 inhabitants, and a tax-roll of about $1,200,000. The separation will leave Santa Barbara with about 9,000 square miles, 7,000 inhabitants, and a tax-roll of about $2,000,000. The town of Santa Buenaventura will be the new county town.

—George A. Nottleston, of Ashtabula, O., is the owner of some unusually large and fine cattle, one pair weighing 4,370 pounds, and another pair 4,180 pounds.

—The "oldest inhabitant" at St. Joseph, Mo., gives it as his opinion that the rise in the river this spring will equal, if not exceed, that of any previous year known—not excepting 1844.

—The Engineer who was commissioned by the Government to survey the Maumee River, has estimated the cost of making a channel eight feet deep from the railroad bridge in Toledo to the Maumee bridge at $6,000. The principal obstructions are the bar between Perrysburg and Maumee City, a small sand bar between Perrysburg and the Miami Dock, and a small bar a short distance above Eagle Point. The first named is the most serious obstruction.

—Fort Washington, constructed in June, 1863, in defence of Harrisburg, Pa., occupies a commanding eminence on the Cumberland County shore of the Susquehanna River, several hundred feet above low-water mark in the city, and affords one of the finest views in the State.

LONDON.

The Flurry Over the Treaty of Washington.

Letter from Mr. Smalley to the "Times."

The Tone of the British Press—Sir Stafford Northcote on Earl De Grey.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, Feb. 15.

EXPRESSIONS OF AMERICAN SENTIMENT.

To-day an American writer has managed to arrest our attention, even calling it off such a theme as the assassination of the Viceroy of India. Hitherto the Atlantic Cable has given us but fragments of articles out of the New York press,—bits selected for the purpose of producing a sensation, and affording no clue, which satisfies people who know the United States, to the actual feeling of the American masses. We are sick of hearing, on every important occasion, the opinions of the New York *Tribune*, the New York *Times*, and the New York *Herald*; nor does the addition, lately, of passages from the *World* help to make us contented with the persons who endeavor to "tune" the English mind by a key-note struck at New York. We want to be told what the people of Chicago, of St. Louis, of Philadelphia, of Boston are thinking and saying. When we have half-a-dozen cables down that information will come.

MR. SMALLEY.

But as to our American. He is Mr. G. W. Smalley, known here as the London correspondent of the New York *Tribune*. Mr. Smalley has occupied offices for a long time in the fashionable quarter, Pall Mall, and to his rooms flock most American notabilities, and not a few also of the leading men of the Radical school of the Old Country. Moving in influential society here, Mr. Smalley religiously preserves his nationality, and is more "American" than any American I have ever known who has been long away from his country. Since the publication of the American "Case," this indefatigable journalist has found himself in a novel position. All the phlo-Americans, who look in to gossip with him,—the independent M. P.'s, the philosophers, the newspaper cronies, even the one-fifth of the tribe who affect Woman's Rights and the Liquor Law,—have, in one form or other, told him the "Case" will never do. Not a single Englishman, I dare assert, has been encountered by Mr. Smalley who will tell him the "indirect claims" ought to be submitted to the Arbitrators. Mr. Smalley, so far as his English acquaintances go, has found himself alone. Cyrus Field, the perpetual "fidget," who is here, there, and everywhere, when stepping in London, is not seen by Mr. Smalley. That may or to do, so completely does his experience agree with that of my brother-craftsman. But Mr. Smalley stands at the more firmly to his guns, in spite of his natural intrepidity appears. He may be recalled in a week; he may have to pack up his traps this; when the American Commissioners made the proposal, your representatives did not at first reject it absolutely. They asked the Americans to say what sum would be sufficient. We replied that the Great Britain would accept the proposal in principle, there would be no serious difficulty in agreeing on the amount. This was declined, although it appears, at one time, to have been the intention of the British Cabinet were at that time ready, at least, to consider, or even did actually consider, a proposition which Mr. Gladstone has since gone out of his way to denounce as fatal compromise of the good-name and ancient honor of England. It was well enough understood that the United States would have taken six millions sterling. How happens it that it has never occurred to your Government, nor, so far as I know, to any English journalist, to read the American Case by the light of that proposition? If the whole matter were not so serious, I should be inclined to say that the alarm and indignation aroused in England have been absolutely gratifying. You took fire at the notion of being asked to pay an immense sum, which an unlucky arithmet

STATE LEGISLATURES.

Signs of Dissolution in the Illinois General Assembly.

Proceedings in Other State Legislatures.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 4.—The House was very thin this morning, but forty members being present when called to order. Of the Cook County delegation but five put in an appearance. The morning was occupied chiefly with reading bills a first and second times and setting innumerable special orders until near 12 o'clock, when Colonel Morrison attempted to introduce a resolution looking to a final adjournment March 20. After considerable filibustering the House refused to suspend the rules, and for a few minutes longer the legislative wheels revolved with the addition of sumptuous repasts (supper and breakfast), brilliant illuminations, fountains and floral decoration.

There was given last Monday night, at the palace of the Strozzi Princes, the most splendid ball in fancy costume that Florence has seen for several years. The palace itself is one of the most notable edifices in the city, and at the same time one of the most historic. The foundation was laid by Filippo Strozzi on the 16th of August, 1489; and the great massive walls, broad and high, are composed of many enormous projecting blocks of granite, all of which, except the bibliotheque. Within those walls have been entertained Leonardo da Vinci, Michael Angelo, Guicciardina, Machiavelli, Filippo Lippi and a multitude of others, all greatly distinguished in the walks of science, art, literature and politics. The magnificent saloons are adorned by the productions of such artists as Titian, Paul Veronese, Poraging, Leonardo da Vinci, Mino di Fiesole, Giovanna di Bologna, Andrea del Sarto, Maritio, Lorenzo di Credi, Salvatore Rosa, Carravaggio, Benvenuto Cellini, Pollaiuolo, and Guercino.

The ball Monday night was conducted upon a scale of such extravagant splendor that even a faint description, one which should fall below the truth, would appear greatly exaggerated. The scene presented seemed indeed too strange to be real; and, were an accurate description possible, an account of the "Arabian Nights" would appear tame in comparison. Many causes from great distances, even from Sicily, merely to be present. It is scarcely too much to say that every speck, every nation was represented in the costume of some guest. Here, in the midst of material so rich and so precious, and sumptuously ornamented, that they seemed as though created by the stroke of an enchanter's wand. The rarest silks, linens, velvets, heavy satins, choicest laces, a profusion of the most precious jewels—there was, in short, such a lavish outpouring of wealth, beauty and elegance, that the eye was dazzled and the mind confused. One lady alone was arrayed in diamonds to the value of more than a million and a half lire. The dancing continued without visible decrease of animation until 5 o'clock the following morning; the strength and spirits of the participants being sustained by a service of the most delicate refreshments, established in an immense room, which (the *Sala Bianca*) reserved for the purpose.

Among the Florentine patrician families represented at the ball there were more than forty of the most ancient and most illustrious. Some of their ancestors occupied distinguished posts in the State nearly seven centuries ago. There had been among them 562 Gonfaloniers of Justice, or Supreme Magistrates of the Government of Florence, 1,453 Priors of Liberty (from 1282 to 1532, a period of 250 years, and 300 Senators of the Mediceon Principality. Three families had produced five popes—Leo X., Clement VII., Leo XI., Urban VIII., and Clement XI.—and fourteen families thirty-four Cardinals, and twenty-five more than sixty Archbishops and Bishops.

The Princess Antonietta Strozzi, of the Genoese family Centurione—consort of Don Ferdinand Strozzi-Majocco-Ronzi, Prince of Forano, Duke of Bagnolo, Senator of the Kingdom—received the friends made her entrance to the first *salon*. She was attired in the historic costume of Donna Luisa Strozzi, celebrated in the fifteenth century. Her purse or reticule was of golden tissue, "tempested" with the most precious pearls. Among the characters assumed, those specially remarkable were: Queen Maria de Medici; the Princess Palatine; Ruth who gathered corn in the fields of Boaz; Queen Filippo Strozzi on the 16th of August, 1480

NEW YORK.

Prominent Merchants Complain of the Espionage of Customs Officials.

Wall Street Prospects for the Current Week.

Fearful Effect of Sewage Gases on Dwellers in First-Class Houses.

Daily Review of the Leading Markets.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ERIE MATTERS.

NEW YORK, March 4.—The expectation that the Erie robbers would share the fate of their Tammany brothers is not likely to be realized very soon. The bill enabling the real owners of the road to take possession of the property hangs fire in the New York Legislature. The Classification bill will probably be repealed, but this will only compel Jay Gould & Co. to stock the cards every year instead of every five years. The important act, however, enabling the owners of Erie shares to vote freely and fairly for officers of their choice is permitted to drag at Albany. Bogus petitions have been manufactured at Stations A and the Erie Road and provincial papers bought up to make entry easier for the English stockholders. Sham mass meetings have been held at Elmira, Dunkirk and other points, to applaud the cry of "Kick out the British," the said English owning only $4,000,000 of the 99,000,000 shares. The fact has been developed that all of the present fourteen Directors of the Erie Railway are interested in schemes for bleeding the road for their own private benefit. Jay Gould, for instance, in his repair shops for Dunkirk, turns out a $12,000 locomotive for $17,000 and retains a mortgage on the engines so that if control he can foreclose. He is a partner in the Slate Roofing Line, and slated the roof of the Hornellsville depot twice in one year. Some of the Directors had freight contracts, stone quarries, and coal mines. The Bloomsburg Coal Company has a contract to supply the Erie Road with coal for the next twenty years at higher than the market rates. The Erie Railroad owns the Towanda coal mines and its product is sold at ruinous low rates, and will probably be exhausted in ten years compelling a reliance on the Blossburg mines.

DISEASE FROM SEWAGE GASES.

The report of Sanitary Inspector Morris to the Board of Health on the subject of sewage gas in fine houses is the reverse of tranquilizing. He mentions a brown stone on Forty-fifth street where a child died recently of spotted fever after only a few hours illness. In the basement were found two cesspools connected with the main sewer and directly reeking as flues for the escape of gas into the house. In another fine house on Forty-eighth street a large pipe without joint connected with a sewer, and here a child aged 3 died of spotted fever. Houses are mentioned on some of the costliest Fifth avenue corner lots, where intermittent fevers are constantly prevailing. Dr. Morris recommends a better plumbing and escape pipe for gases through the roof.

WHAT MR. GREELEY THINKS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Horace Greeley says a month ago he thought the Democrats would carry New Hampshire, on account of the alienation of Republicans, owing to the intended nomination of President Grant for re-election and other reasons, but he thinks the Democrats are destroying their chance by spreading free trade doctrines.

HALL'S TRIAL.

In Mayor Hall's trial to-day the testimony for the prosecution opened. It is developing that the main questions at issue are legal, and relate to what Hall's duty was as Mayor and member of the Board of Audit, and will lead, it is presumed, to contests on every item of evidence. The first witness was Deputy Comptroller Richard A. Storrs, who was interrogated on the subject of stolen and other vouchers, and on various matters relating at every step on the ground that this trial relates to only one voucher, and the prosecution must prove it was once in existence, and lost. The character of a voucher in the New York City Government was explained, witness affirming the routine as conducted formerly. Tweed wrote his name or initials across the face of a bill. In a friendly conversation with a newspaper reporter Mayor Hall said he was not in any way responsible for the acts of others, and by his own nature that made me accept the Mayoralty. I hear the trumpet again, and am eager to get back to my profession. It has been very disagreeable since I have been here, but if they want to drive me out I will not go. I accepted the Mayoralty merely out of friendship for Hoffman and my party friends. As for the honor part of it, I do not care for that. When I was District Attorney I had much more attention paid me. I was more frequently invited to dinner parties than since I have been Mayor. My family has not been looked up to since I have been Mayor as when I was District Attorney."

THE WEEK'S PROSPECTS.

The prospects for the week on Wall street are that there will be a moderately active money market at the full legal rate. The speculators have suspended operations for the present, and there is a strong market for securities both here and in London. The large borrowers on stocks are still obtaining their money supply from foreign bankers in sterling bills, and so are for the time independent of the banks.

MONEY.

To-day the money market was easy at 7 per cent currency to 7 per cent gold. Commercial paper is dull, the range for prime notes being 7½ to 7 per cent.

GOLD

was dull and heavy, though it opened at 81½ under the influence of last week's extraordinary imports of foreign merchandize. It closed at 81½@81¾. The rates for carrying were 3, 3½, 4, 4½, 5 and 7 per cent.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

are higher and stronger. Two millions of five-twenties will be purchased for the Sinking Fund, half on the 14th and the rest on the 26th instant. There will be no gold sales for the first time since Boutwell's accession to office.

STOCKS.

There was considerable buoyancy on the Stock Exchange. Northwestern advanced from 78@79 and Pacific Mail, to 61; Union Pacific fluctuated from 36½ to 38½. The new Board of Directors will be elected on Wednesday, and large quantities of this stock are being bought by Vanderbilt's friends. Northwestern declined a little at the close of the day.

THE NEW YORK EXCHANGE MARKET

was dull, but firm to-day, at 106½ to 109½ for prime bankers' sixty days' sterling.

PACIFIC RAILROAD SECURITIES.

Central Pacific bonds closed at 102½ to 103½, and Unions at 91½ to 91¾ for 6s; 85½ to 85¾ for land grants, and 85½ to 86 for bonds.

BREADSTUFFS.

Flour is heavy for the lower grades, the others being firm. Wheat is quiet, with the demand chiefly for winter, which is firm. White spring is uncertain, but above the limits of shippers. Millers are holding off. The demand for corn is chiefly for export, and the rates are better, the decline in freights and light arrivals giving sellers the advantage. The market closed quiet.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

The *Tribune* alleges that some merchants who criminated the Government officials in their testimony before the Custom House Investigating Committee are now being subjected to vexatious suits and seizures. The firm of Clark & Schultz, who are of this class, had their books overhauled in a manner which the *Tribune* says was suspicious, if not positively outrageous.

SUSPECTED.

A concern which has appropriated the name of the "Geneva Watch Company" is an irresponsible one.

A PASSENGER

on a Jersey City ferry-boat, who was without much room to watch his pocket, apprehended too near the engine, and was crushed into an unrecognizable mass.

THE WORKINGMEN.

A mass meeting of German workingmen was held yesterday. A proposition from an English branch of the International to form a branch of the meeting. A plan for the fusion of all working interests was arranged.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.

A youth named Jackson was burned to death in a fire occurring in a stable early this morning.

Yesterday morning another man was horribly mutilated by a freight train on Vanderbilt's up-town track.

MAYOR HALL.

The trial of Mayor Hall commenced this morning. The first witness was ex-Deputy Comptroller Richard A. Storrs, whom the prosecution called to certify to a resolution which the Mayor had drawn up in favor of Smith & Co.'s certificate. This is evidenced. Hall had his counsel present. Counsel for Hall entered an exception to the admissibility of the document. Storrs continued his evidence. Had the Mayor a certain bank account? Objected to. Court sustained the objection. The defendant's counsel objected to the question of every liabilities not to be left in the comptroller's office in 1870, but it was overruled. The witness said that the Mayor's signature was genuine. In regard to producing statements as to vouchers of the claims of Garvey, which were not stated, witness said he knew of no such statements, but that it might be in existence before the voucher thrifts. On a cross-examination the witness said that what he knew was the result of what he was told, and not from his own knowledge. He knew the signature of Wm. M. Tweed, with R. Connolly appended, was genuine. Tweed's bank account was considered a distinct matter to the auditing of evidences of claims. Witness was not aware that the Mayor had any connection with the Ring. Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Startling Account of the Operations of the Ku-Klux Klan.

Robeson County Handits.

Special Despatch to the Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, March 4.—The company of bandits in Robeson County, North Carolina of whose exploits no mask is beginning to appear in print, has been in existence nine years, dating from Confederate times, and is now led by Henry Berry Lowery, who is of mixed white, mulatto and Cherokee Indian blood. The partners of the adventurers are his brothers, Steve, Boss and Andy, and his brother-in-law Boss, and Andrew Strouse; but he doubtless has secret partners. To the accounts of these bandits there is now charged nineteen murders, and over 200 robberies, all committed without injury or punishment to the gang. The scene of their crimes is exclusively Robeson County, where they all live, and which contains a population of about 18,000 white inhabitants, being mainly of Scotch descent. All the principal citizens are willing to state the band have met with successful resistance, and the only hope now seems to be the interven tion of United States troops. The leader, Lowery, has many rewards hanging over his head, amounting in all to $11,000, and his execution is up and down the country are so bold as ever. His mulatto wife and three children reside at Lumberton, the county seat of the county of which he is the terror. Armed with repeating rifles and pistols of the finest workmanship, and have sworn they will never be taken alive. Lowery is a cousin to the famous old Railroad, which runs through Robeson County, and in constant dread of trains being blown off or of the track being torn up, and openly says nothing has saved them except Lowery's superstitious dread of disturbing the United States mails.

OHIO.

Large Meeting at Cleveland to Consider the Subject of Convict Labor.

CLEVELAND, O. March 4.—Large meetings of workingmen were held in this city on Saturday evening, to protest against the passage of Senator Beavis' Workhouse bill. Speeches were made by members of different Trades Unions in opposition to the measure. Resolutions were passed condemning Senator Beavis for introducing the bill, and asking his resignation, demanding the total abolition of the contract system now in force in our Penitentiaries, and recommending the adoption of a plan similar to the one adopted by the Boston House of Correction whereby the profits of the products of convict labor accrue to these institutions instead of the pockets of prison contractors, and also that it be allowed to share in the profits of his labor. If a person with no one dependent upon him for support, a percentage should be placed to his credit on the books of the institution and deposited with the Treasurer of the State or county in which the inmate may be confined, to be drawn and given him on his discharge. If a person with a family or other relatives dependent upon him for support, the money to be paid from time to time to the legal claimants upon the prisoner. Resolving that convicts should be employed in the manufacture of articles which least interfere with honest industry. Resolving that they will support no man for office who will not pledge himself to use his influence to secure the adoption of the aims and objects of the resolutions.

John Fehrenbatch, President of the International Workingmen's and Eleutherian Union, was authorized to go to Columbus to do all in his power to defeat the measure.

National Base Ball Convention at Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, O., March 4.—The National Association of Professional Base Ball Players assembled in annual Convention in this city this evening. The following clubs were represented: Forest City, Cleveland; Atlantic, Brooklyn; Alex. Mutuals, New York; Olympic, Washington; Forest Citys, of Cleveland. Doolittle represented the Forest Citys, of Cleveland.

In the absence of the President of the Association, Mr. Evans, of Cleveland, the Vice President called the Convention to order. Reports from the various Committees were then made, and the following officers were elected: Robert Ferguson, of the Atlantics, President; N. E. Young, of the Forest Citys, Vice President; N. E. Young, of the Baltic Club, Secretary. The rules were then revised and adopted. With few exceptions, they are the same as last season.

After passing a vote of thanks to the retiring officers and to the Forest City Club, the Convention adjourned to meet in Baltimore on the first Monday in March, 1873.

Another Official Peculiarity in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, March 4.—E. Van Norden, President of the Savings Bank, was sentenced to day, by Judge Cooley, to the Parish Prison ten days, with hard labor, and to pay a fine of $500 and costs, and over 300 petitions thundering loudly for his release were presented to him, Jan. 19, by A. M. Southworth and Senator Lewis, containing 300,000, and in expressing that Lewis should "fear God, Richback's and Warmoth's administration, and attend regularly the session of the Legislature each day, and to be delivered to Lewis March 4, upon complying with certain conditions. Van Norden was immediately released by Governor Kellogg, and liberated. During the investigation it transpired that Southworth compounded with Van Norden for $10,000, and his experience up and down the country are so bold as ever. His mulatto wife and three children reside at Lumberton, the county seat of the county of which he is the terror. Armed with repeating rifles and pistols of the finest workmanship, and have sworn they will never be taken alive. Lowery is a cousin to the famous old Railroad, which runs through Robeson County, and in constant dread of trains being blown off or of the track being torn up, and openly says nothing has saved them except Lowery's superstitious dread of disturbing the United States mails.

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MISCELLANEOUS CITY ITEMS.

Jacob Steffer, a German, aged 19 years, died yesterday morning at his home, No. 81 Mohawk street. The unfortunate youth had been run over by his own team, on Saturday evening. The wheels passed over his breast, causing fearful injuries. The Coroner held an inquest yesterday, and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

—The remains of an unknown man were found floating in the river, yesterday, at Lake street bridge. The Coroner removed the body to the Morgue, No. 64 Milwaukee avenue.

The New Madrid Earthquakes.

We extract the following from the "History of a Cosmopolite":

Earthquakes still occasionally shake our New Madrid friends, and all will find this letter, from a lady to Lorenzo Dow, replete with interest. Mr. G. W. Davis informs us that he often boarded with Mrs. Bryan when he was attending Court at New Madrid in the days of early log-cabin architecture. Back-

Alex. Mitchine, Russian Minister of the Interior.

THE EMIGRANT SWINDLERS.

Judge Benedict heard arguments to-day in the case of Monroe, the emigrant swindler, his counsel are working for a new trial.

Refused rate between Chicago or Peoria and New Orleans has been reduced to $20.

RAILROAD FATALITY.

James McCluskey was killed in a bar-room fight in Yorkville, early this morning by a blow on the head inflicted by Thomas Murray, a well-known politician. Murray is arrested.

SUIT TO RECOVER.

The suit of Wm. Woodward against Eli Corbett, founder of Cornell University, for $50,000, claimed to be due plaintiff for services as agent in locating Government lands for the benefit of said University, was tried before Judge Gilbert, in the United States Circuit Court, as a motion to change the place of trial from Orange to Tompkins county. Owing to the illness of counsel for plaintiff, and claims to have suffered a loss of $250,000 by Woodward's act. Decision was reserved.

QUARANTINE.

The new Health Officer, Dr. Vanderpool, has taken possession, and holds conference with Health Officers of boards of trade relative to the method of managing the business of Quarantine, to protect the public without unduly restricting commerce.

JERSEY CITY FRAUDS.

The Grand Jury at Jersey City presented furnace indictments to-day. Justice Dayton, senior, is indicted in the case, has been held in $2,500 bail for trial.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Startling Account of the Operations of the Ku-Klux Klan.

Robeson County Handits.

Special Despatch to the Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, March 4.—The company of bandits in Robeson County, North Carolina of whose exploits no mask is beginning to appear in print, has been in existence nine years, dating from Confederate times, and is now led by Henry Berry Lowery, who is of mixed white, mulatto and Cherokee Indian blood. The partners of the adventurers are his brothers, Steve, Boss and Andy, and his brother-in-law Boss, and Andrew Strouse; but he doubtless has secret partners. To the accounts of these bandits there is now charged nineteen murders, and over 200 robberies, all committed without injury or punishment to the gang. The scene of their crimes is exclusively Robeson County, where they all live, and which contains a population of about 18,000 white inhabitants, being mainly of Scotch descent. All the principal citizens are willing to state the band have met with successful resistance, and the only hope now seems to be the intervention of United States troops. The leader, Lowery, has many rewards hanging over his head, amounting in all to $11,000, and his execution is up and down the country are so bold as ever. His mulatto wife and three children reside at Lumberton, the county seat of the county of which he is the terror. Armed with repeating rifles and pistols of the finest workmanship, and have sworn they will never be taken alive. Lowery is a cousin to the famous old Railroad, which runs through Robeson County, and in constant dread of trains being blown off or of the track being torn up, and openly says nothing has saved them except Lowery's superstitious dread of disturbing the United States mails.

OHIO.

Large Meeting at Cleveland to Consider the Subject of Convict Labor.

CLEVELAND, O., March 4.—Large meetings of workingmen were held in this city on Saturday evening, to protest against the passage of Senator Beavis' Workhouse bill. Speeches were made by members of different Trades Unions in opposition to the measure. Resolutions were passed condemning Senator Beavis for introducing the bill, and asking his resignation, demanding the total abolition of the contract system now in force in our Penitentiaries, and recommending the adoption of a plan similar to the one adopted by the Boston House of Correction whereby the profits of the products of convict labor accrue to these institutions instead of the pockets of prison contractors, and also that it be allowed to share in the profits of his labor. If a person with no one dependent upon him for support, a percentage should be placed to his credit on the books of the institution and deposited with the Treasurer of the State or county in which the inmate may be confined, to be drawn and given him on his discharge. If a person with a family or other relatives dependent upon him for support, the money to be paid from time to time to the legal claimants upon the prisoner. Resolving that convicts should be employed in the manufacture of articles which least interfere with honest industry. Resolving that they will support no man for office who will not pledge himself to use his influence to secure the adoption of the aims and objects of the resolutions.

John Fehrenbatch, President of the International Workingmen's and Eleutherian Union, was authorized to go to Columbus to do all in his power to defeat the measure.

DIED.

KLOKKE—At Frankfort-on-the-Main, Jan. 25, 1872, Minna, beloved wife of E. F. C. Klokke, in the 29th year of her age.

HILLS—In this city, March 3, Edwin Hills, age 57 years.

Funeral services this day, at 4:30 p. m., at the residence of James Wright, Esq., 49 Aberdeen-st. Remains to be taken to Cincinnati.

CONOR—March 4, Daniel Conor, at the residence of his son-in-law, 213 Twenty-seventh-st.

Funeral at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

MACHINERY.

A GOOD, 20-HORSE POWER, BLANDY PORTABLE Engine can be bought cheap. Inquire of HARRIS BROS., MANUFACTURING CO., Jan. 30, 10 N. Canal-st.

A NEW ENGINEER, PORTABLE 2 TO 40 HORSE Power; threshing, 4 and 10-horse; circular saw mills, 4-horse; corn shellers, accompanied by the inventor. COLLINS EATON, 78 South Canal-st.

BLANDY'S STATIONARY AND PORTABLE ENgines, steam pumps, circular saws, flour mills, shingle machines and sawers, 38 South Canal-st. T. V. NORTHROP, Agt.

C. & G. COOPER & CO., OFFICE 12 AND 14 Canal-st., Chicago, manufacture Stationary and Portable Engines of all sizes, Circular Saw Mills and Sawing Mill Machinery. Send for illustrated circular.

FOR SALE—A BARGAIN—20-HORSE ENGINE, 24 horse boiler, heater, shafting, circular saws, drive belting, pulleys, etc. GILMORE STONE CO., Washington-st., west of Market.

FOR SALE—ALL SIZES OF STURTEVANT'S genuine blowers and exhaust fans on hand. Also, boilers, mortise mills, stave heading and shingle machinery, engine lathes, iron planers, drills, shingle machines, saws, emery wheels, wood-turning lathes, portable engines, gearing, shafting, pulleys, hangers, sawing machines, gummer belts, rubber belting, packing, steam gauges, oils, etc. Send for circulars. Second-hand machinery bought, sold or exchanged. Our store consists of a full assortment of machinists' tools, and we are prepared to furnish machinery complete. Our shop consists of a full assortment of engine lathes, planers, drills, etc., and we are prepared to do all kinds of repairing. STURTEVANT MACHINE CO., 47 to 57 Canal-st., 30 South Canal-st.

WANTED—20 HORSE STEAM ENGINE AND Boiler, second-hand. Must be cheap. Address W. S., Tribune office.

INSTRUCTION.

SITUATION WANTED—IN A PRIVATE FAMily, by a young lady who is capable of giving lessons, which pledged its borders. They were brought with much regularity, in some instances, by the Jardine Band, which has since left the city, and would be with difficulty persuaded that it was not the only one in the world. At a grand many in the days of